

conditions, 5) previous non operative treatments the patient may have had for this condition, 6) previous operations the patient may have had for this condition or that might effect the condition, 7) current treatment for this condition, 8) any condition-specific questions the content physician feels should be asked that are not covered above. For example the interview may ask the interview to rate pain: "On a scale of 1-10 with 10 being severe and incapacitating pain, how do you rank your pain when it is at its worse?" The questions are worded in patient-friendly language and do not contain medical terminology. Also, the questions can either be structured or unstructured. Structured questions call for specific information relating to specific conditions. The patient's responses to structured questions can lead to either the generation or elimination of other structured questions from the interview. Unstructured questions allow for more of an open-ended response by the patient. A typical unstructured question can call for information such as a description of general health status.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for creating a medical chart regarding a patient's medical condition for which an appointment has been scheduled with a physician, comprising the steps of:

- a) ~~enabling said patient to access a server site, and enabling said condition at said server site;~~ providing a patient with access information for logging onto a server site containing a plurality of patient files, including a patient file for the patient;
- b) ~~connecting said patient to said server site;~~ providing and enabling a condition-specific interview for the patient regarding the patient's medical condition, wherein the content and amount of interview questions can be dynamically altered depending upon

responses provided by the patient;

c) ~~interactively interviewing said patient by said server site regarding said enabled condition, and storing information from said patient regarding said condition in patient files at said server site; logging onto said server site by the patient;~~

d) ~~responsive to said interview, electronically generating, by said server site, pre-visit information that includes an editable preliminary chart note including information relating to said patient's condition; and conducting said condition-specific interview with the patient by said server site;~~

e) ~~transmitting said preliminary chart note to said physician; storing information obtained from said condition-specific interview in patient files at said server site;~~

f) ~~responsive to said condition-specific interview, electronically generating, by said server site, pre-visit information including an editable preliminary chart note with information relating to the patient's medical condition; and~~

g) ~~transmitting said editable preliminary chart note to the physician.~~

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method for creating a medical chart regarding a patient's medical condition for which an appointment has been scheduled with a physician of claim 1 further comprising the steps of, after examining an examination of the patient by the physician:

a) ~~completing said patient's~~ editable preliminary chart note by said ~~the physician responsive to said~~ the examination; and

b) ~~storing said completed~~ editable preliminary chart note at said

server site.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method for creating a medical chart regarding a patient's medical condition for which an appointment has been scheduled with a physician of claim 1 further comprising the steps of electronically generating pre-visit information responsive to said condition-specific interview that includes a pre-visit physician report ~~including with~~ expert medical information relating to said the patient's condition, by converting information responsive to said condition-specific interview from language not containing technical medical terminology into language containing technical medical terminology, and transmitting said pre-visit physician report to ~~said the physician in language containing technical medical terminology~~ for the purpose of enabling efficient diagnosis and treatment of the patient.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method for creating a medical chart regarding a patient's medical condition for which an appointment has been scheduled with a physician of claim 3, wherein said pre-visit physician report includes at least one [of the] differential diagnosis diagnoses, work-up algorithm algorithms, treatment consideration considerations, and literature reference. references, ~~and the step of transmitting said pre-visit physician report to said physician.~~

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method for creating a medical chart regarding a patient's medical condition for which an appointment has been scheduled with a physician of claim 1 further comprising the steps of electronically generating pre-visit information that includes a pre-visit patient summary responsive to said condition-specific interview including information relating to said the patient's medical condition, and transmitting said pre-visit patient summary to ~~said the patient in language not containing technical medical terminology.~~

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method for creating a medical chart regarding a patient's medical condition for which an appointment has been scheduled with a physician of claim 5, wherein said step of electronically generating ~~said~~ pre-visit ~~patient summary~~ information further comprises the steps of electronically generating key condition-specific physician questions in language not containing technical medical terminology and relating to said patient's medical condition, and transmitting said key condition-specific physician questions to said the patient in language not containing technical medical terminology.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method for creating a medical chart regarding a patient's medical condition for which an appointment has been scheduled with a physician of claim 6, wherein said step of electronically generating ~~said~~ pre-visit information further comprises the steps of electronically generating a pre-visit physician report that includes said key condition-specific physician questions and a rationale for responses to each of said key condition-specific physician questions by the patient, and transmitting said pre-visit physician report to said the physician in technical medical terminology for the purpose of enabling efficient diagnosis and treatment of the patient.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method for creating a medical chart regarding a patient's medical condition for which an appointment has been scheduled with a physician of claim 1 further comprising the steps of, after examining said the patient by said the physician, generating a post-visit patient report in language not containing technical medical terminology, and transmitting said post-visit patient report to said the patient.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The method for creating a medical chart regarding a patient's medical condition for which an appointment has been scheduled with a physician of claim 1 further comprising:

a) responsive to said condition-specific interview, electronically generating a pre-visit patient summary relating to said the patient's medical condition, said pre-visit summary including a plurality of key condition-specific physician questions in language not containing technical medical terminology and relating to said the patient's medical condition conditions, and transmitting said ~~report~~ pre-visit patient summary to said the patient;

b) responsive to said condition-specific interview, electronically generating a pre-visit physician report including expert medical information relating to said the patient's medical condition, said pre-visit physician report ~~also~~ including said plurality of key condition-specific physician questions and a ~~rationale~~ response for each of said plurality of key condition-specific physician questions, and transmitting said pre-visit physician report to said the physician.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The method for creating a medical chart regarding a patient's medical condition for which an appointment has been scheduled with a physician of claim 9, wherein said pre-visit physician report further includes at least one of differential diagnosis ~~diagnoses~~, work-up algorithm ~~algorithms~~, treatment consideration ~~considerations~~, and literature reference ~~references~~, and ~~the step of transmitting said pre-visit physician report to said physician~~.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A method for creating a medical chart regarding an office visit for a specific condition of a patient[[,]] comprising the steps of:

a) providing a server site connected to an electronic communication network, said server site including storage of a plurality of patient files, including a patient file for for a plurality of patients including said the patient;

b) ~~connecting said patient to said server site using said electronic communication network;~~ providing the patient with access information for logging onto said server site;

c) ~~interviewing said patient by said server site regarding said specific condition, and storing information from said patient regarding said specific condition in said patient's files at said server site;~~ logging onto said server site by the patient using said electronic communication network;

d) ~~electronically generating, by said server site, pre-visit information that includes a pre-visit patient summary and a preliminary chart note, and transmitting said pre-visit patient summary to said patient and said preliminary chart note to said physician;~~ interviewing the patient by said server site regarding said specific condition and storing information from the patient about said specific condition in the patient's files at said server site;

e) ~~examining said patient by said physician;~~ electronically generating, by said server site, pre-visit information that includes a pre-visit patient summary and an editable preliminary chart note, and transmitting said pre-visit patient summary to the patient and said editable preliminary chart note to the physician;

f) ~~completing said patient's chart note by said physician responsive to said examination; and~~ performing an examination of the patient by the physician;

g) ~~storing said completed chart note at said server site.~~ completing said editable preliminary chart note by the physician responsive to the examination; and

f) storing said editable preliminary chart note at said server site.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The method for creating a medical chart regarding an office visit for a specific condition of a patient of claim 11 further comprising the steps of:

- a) selecting, by ~~said~~ the physician, condition-specific educational material to be provided to ~~said~~ the patient, and
- b) responsive to said ~~completed~~ editable preliminary chart note and said ~~selected~~ condition-specific educational material, electronically generating a post-visit report for ~~said~~ the patient.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The method for creating a medical chart regarding an office visit for a specific condition of a patient of claim 11, further comprising the steps of providing a plurality of key condition-specific physician questions to ~~said~~ the patient with said pre-visit patient summary, and supplying said plurality of ~~pre-visit~~ key condition-specific physician questions to ~~said~~ the physician prior to ~~said~~ the patient's visit.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The method for creating a medical chart regarding an office visit for a specific condition of a patient of claim 11 further comprising the steps of:

- a) supplying an access code associated with a patient to emergency personnel assigned to treat ~~said~~ the patient; and
- b) utilizing said access code to connect to said server site and view ~~said~~ the patient's file to assist in treating ~~said~~ the patient.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The method for creating a medical chart regarding an office visit for a specific condition of a patient of claim 11 further comprising, by ~~said~~ the patient, the steps of:

- a) subsequently logging onto said server site;
- b) viewing ~~said~~ the patient's file; and
- c) updating ~~said~~ the patient's file.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The method for creating a medical chart regarding an office visit for a specific condition of a patient of claim 11 further comprising the steps of:

- a) electronically storing a group of patient files without patient identifiers such that said group of patient files avoid disclosing the identity of the patients associated with said group of patient files; and
- b) performing medical studies utilizing said group of patient files.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A method for assisting a physician in providing medical services to a patient who has a medical condition, comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a server site connected to an electronic communication network, said server site including ~~storage~~ a plurality of patient files, including a patient file for ~~for a plurality of patients including said~~ the patient;
- b) providing ~~a~~ the patient with access information for logging onto said server site;
- c) logging onto said server site by ~~said~~ the patient, and in response to a request by ~~said~~ the patient, registering ~~said~~ the patient including creating an electronic file for ~~said~~ the patient in ~~said patient's~~ a record database for the patient;
- d) conducting a pre-visit interview, electronically generating a pre-visit summary that includes condition-specific preliminary information and transmitting said pre-visit summary to ~~said~~ the patient; and
- e) responsive to said pre-visit interview, electronically generating pre-visit information that includes a preliminary chart note and condition-specific educational material, and transmitting said pre-visit information to ~~said~~ the physician.

Claim 18 (currently amended): The method for assisting a physician in providing medical services to a patient who has a medical condition of claim 17 further comprising the steps of protecting the security of all transmissions to and from said server site over said electronic communication network, including encrypting said transmissions, and ~~further~~ including protecting the privacy of ~~said~~ the patient's file on said server site.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The method for assisting a physician in providing medical services to a patient who has a medical condition of claim 17 further comprising the step

of providing a plurality of key condition-specific physician questions to ~~said~~ the patient with said pre-visit summary, and supplying said plurality of ~~pre-visit~~ key condition-specific physician questions to ~~said~~ the physician with said pre-visit information.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The method for assisting a physician in providing medical services to a patient who has a medical condition of claim 17, further comprising the steps of:

- a) performing an examination of ~~examining~~ said the patient by said the physician, and responsive to said examination, completing ~~said the~~ the patient's chart note by said the physician and transmitting said ~~completed~~ patient's chart note to said server site for storage in said the patient's file;
- b) responsive to said examination, electronically selecting condition-specific educational material to be provided to said the patient, and transmitting said selected material to said server site for storage in said the patient's file; and
- c) responsive to said the ~~completed~~ patient's chart note and said selected material, electronically generating a post-visit report for ~~said the~~ the patient.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The method for assisting a physician in providing medical services to a patient who has a medical condition of claim 17 further comprising, by ~~said the~~ the patient, the steps of:

- a) subsequently logging onto said server site;
- b) viewing ~~said~~ the patient's file; and
- c) updating ~~said~~ the patient's file.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The method for assisting a physician in providing medical services to a patient who has a medical condition of claim 17 further comprising, by ~~said~~ the physician, the steps of:

- a) subsequently logging onto said server site; and
- b) viewing ~~said~~ the patient's file unless said patient has previously updated ~~said~~ the patient's file to de-select ~~said~~ the physician.

Claim 23 (currently amended): The method for assisting a physician in providing medical services to a patient who has a medical condition of claim 17 further comprising the steps of:

- a) electronically storing a group of patient files without patient identifiers such that said group of patient files avoid disclosing the identity of the patients associated with said group of patient files[[,]] and; and
- b) performing medical studies utilizing said group of patient files.

Claim 24 (currently amended): A medical information system that utilizes an electronic communication network for facilitating delivery of medical services from physicians to patients, and for electronically storing patient files, comprising:

- a) a communication link to said electronic communication network;
- b) a plurality of databases stored in computer-readable form,
including condition-specific medical information and individual patient files;
- c) a plurality of computer programs connected to said databases and
said communication link;
- d) a system for providing ~~an interactive~~ and enabling a condition-
specific interview for said the patient regarding the patient's medical condition, wherein the
content and amount of interview questions can be dynamically altered depending upon responses
provided by the patient, and storing responses thereto in said the patient's file;
- e) ~~a system, responsive to said interview, for generating a condition-~~
~~specific pre-visit summary for said patient in preparation for a visit by said patient to a physician;~~
~~and;~~ a system for providing the patient with access information for logging onto a server site
containing a storage of patient files for a plurality of patients including said patient;
- f) ~~a system, responsive to said interview, for generating pre-visit~~
~~condition-specific material including a preliminary chart note for the physician in advance of said~~
~~visit by said patient.~~ a system, responsive to said interview, for generating a condition-specific
pre-visit summary for the patient in preparation for a visit by the patient to a physician; and
- g) a system, responsive to said interview, for generating pre-visit
condition-specific material including a preliminary chart note for the physician in advance of a
visit by the patient.

Claim 25 (currently amended): The medical information system of claim 24, wherein said plurality of databases include a database including key condition-specific physician questions, and further comprising a system for selecting and providing a plurality of key condition-specific physician questions to said the patient with said pre-visit summary, and a system for supplying said plurality of ~~pre-visit~~ key condition-specific physician questions to said the physician with said pre-visit information.

Claim 26 (currently amended): The medical information system of claim 24 further comprising means for protecting the security of all transmissions to and from said server site over said electronic communication network, including encrypting said transmissions, and further including means for protecting the privacy of said patient's file on said server site.

Claim 27 (currently amended): The medical information system of claim 24 further comprising:

- a) a system for said the physician to complete said patient's preliminary chart note, and transmitting said ~~completed~~ preliminary chart note to said server site for storage in said patient's file;
- b) a system for electronically selecting condition-specific educational material to be provided to said the patient, and transmitting said condition-specific educational [selected] material to said server site for storage in said patient's file; and
- c) a system, responsive to said ~~completed~~ preliminary chart note and said condition-specific educational ~~selected~~ material, that electronically generates a post-visit report for said the patient.

Claim 28 (currently amended): The medical information system of claim 24 further comprising a system for allowing ~~said~~ the patient to electronically update ~~said~~ the patient's file.

Claim 29 (currently amended): The medical information system of claim 24 further comprising a system for allowing a physician to view said patient's file only if ~~said~~ the physician has been pre-authorized by ~~said~~ the patient.

Claim 30 (currently amended): The medical information system of claim 24 further comprising a system for allowing emergency personnel to view said patient's file for the purpose of providing medical care to the patient.

Claim 31 (currently amended): The medical information system of claim 24 further comprising a system for performing medical studies utilizing said group of patient files, wherein said group of patient files do not contain patient identifying information.

Claim 32 (currently amended): A computerized method of clinically educating a physician over an electronic network, comprising the steps of:

- a) interviewing a plurality of patients, each of said plurality of patients ~~patient~~ having one or more of a plurality of medical conditions;
- b) for each of said plurality of patients ~~patient~~, generating a report in computerized form for ~~said~~ the physician that includes condition-specific information regarding medical practices relating to said one or more of a plurality of medical conditions applicable to